Our Toronto

VOL. 4 **ISSUE 2** SUMMER 2011

Building a great city – together

Keeping cool this summer

WITH an anticipated hotter than normal summer, why not visit one of the City's many swimming pools? The City's swim instructors and lifeguards enjoy teaching youth, adults and seniors to swim, to be safe and smart around water, and to learn how to perform life-saving rescues.

As a pool manager, lifeguard and swim instructor, Hilary Jackett teaches people of all ages, diversities and abilities the essential skills required to have confidence in the pool, and most importantly to have fun!

A new program at Dennis R. Timbrell Resource Centre allows women from culturally diverse backgrounds, who otherwise would not have been given this opportunity, to learn to swim in a safe environment.

"Watching women gain confidence, not to mention seeing the smiles on their faces, is priceless," said Hilary. "As a fellow Torontonian, it is a great place to live, work and play, and to be part of a rewarding experience. With the City of Toronto having the safest facilities in Ontario, I also receive essential certification training each year to ensure that I am ready for any situation," adds Hilary.

Swimming is often ranked the best form of exercise for the benefits it provides such as aerobics and resistance training. There are a number of instructional programs for those who want to learn to swim, exercise or become a lifeguard. Drop-in programs such as Swim to Survive, family swim and youth clubs are available. Connecting Toronto residents to recreational services allows them to stay engaged with their city. This community service helps to shape Toronto as a city that cares. Programs run all year round, so check out Toronto Fun Online to register!

toronto.ca/parks/torontofun

Summer camps across Toronto

FOR parents, the need to provide enriching and engaging activities for children over the summer months can be daunting. Toronto's historic sites can fill your needs with their summer camps. There are five locations across Toronto, each set in a beautiful park or surrounded by gardens. All are accessible by TTC and have free parking for pick up and drop off. The camps have various themes and cater to children from 5 to 14 years of age.

In the east, Scarborough Museum offers Adventure Camp for ages 6 to 11. Children learn 19th-century skills, arts and crafts, cooking, games, theatre arts and nature hikes.

At Gibson House in the north, campers will use their creative energies on a journey to discover life in Willow Dale in 1851. Kids enjoy hands-on activities from the late 1800s such as baking bread, puppet-making and weaving.

The High Park Discovery Camp at Colborne Lodge offers full days for ages 7 to 11 and half days for 5- and 6-year-olds. Activities include crafts, games, nature activities, a visit to the High Park Zoo and Jamie Bell Adventure Playground.

At the centrally-located Todmorden Mills Heritage Site, 5- to 8-year-olds can explore various types of art, as well as nature themes in the rural-like setting.

Spadina Museum (beside Casa Loma) provides full day Art and Drama Camp for 8 to 10 and 11- to 13-year-olds, and half days for 5- to 7-year-olds. The museum also hosts Adventures in Archaeology for ages 10 to 14.

toronto.ca/camps

Subscribe to e-updates to receive news releases, media advisories and other City information

Toronto residents can subscribe to automatically receive City news releases, media advisories, and updates about other information by e-mail or on newsfeed. Check our Twitter accounts, too.

toronto.ca/e-updates

Toronto's beaches just got bluer

TORONTO'S Bluffer's Park Beach in Scarborough has just been granted a Blue Flag, making it our eighth beach to achieve world class status. The Blue Flag is a highly respected and internationally-recognized eco-label for quality swimming beaches.

Toronto has strict testing criteria for water quality, and the Blue Flag is the public's assurance that a beach meets the standards for water quality, environmental education and safety.

Toronto uses some of the toughest water quality standards around. The Blue Flag means that a beach is rated among the finest in the world. The City has plans to get the remaining beaches up to Blue Flag standing.

Over the past several years, the City has worked to improve beach and water conditions. Some of the actions taken to bring these beaches to a Blue Flag standard include:

- improved water quality through a number of initiatives that capture and treat rain and melted snow before it enters the lake
- enhanced beach grooming and litter controls at beaches
- a waterfowl and gulls management program, including using Border Collies to herd birds off beaches (Residents and visitors can help by not feeding the birds.)

So, this summer, when you are feeling hot, cool off at your local beach. You can check beach water quality results at the link below.

toronto.ca/beach or blueflag.ca

Our Toronto

Building a great city – together

Our Toronto is distributed to every household in the city. Fully-accessible PDF and audio versions are also available on the City's website (toronto.ca/ourtoronto). You can read it online in the languages listed below, or contact us to have a printed copy in your language mailed to you. Call, write or e-mail to get a Braille or large print version mailed to you.

Vous trouverez ce journal en français au site web ci-dessous. (French)

在以下所示網站上有該報紙的中文版本。 (Chinese)

இந்தச் செய்தித்தாளின் தமிழ்ப் பிரதியைக் கீழ்காணும் தளத்தில் இப் பார்க்கலாம். (Tamil)

Questo giornale è disponibile in italiano sul sito Web che segue. (Italian)

Este periódico está disponible en español en el sitio web indicado abajo. (Spanish)

Este jornal está disponível em português no sítio Web abaixo indicado. (Portuguese)

Makikita ang Tagalog na edisyon ng pahayagang ito sa website sa ibaba. (Tagalog)

یہ اخبار نیچے دی گئی ویب سائٹ پر اردو زبان میں دستیاب ہے۔ (Urdu)

Данная газета на русском языке имеется на нижеуказанном веб-сайте. (Russian)

این نشریه به فارسی اقترشی ذیل به زبان فارسی قابل دسترسی میباشد (Farsi)

이 신문은 아래의 웹페이지에서 한국어로 보실 수 있습니다. (Korean)

toronto.ca/ourtoronto

Contact us
Our Toronto – City Hall
100 Queen Street West, 7th Floor, West Tower
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
ourtoronto@toronto.ca • Call: 311

Because we care
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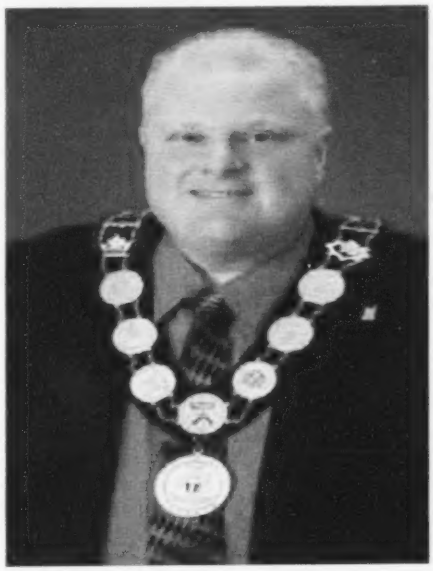
Recycled

A message from Mayor Rob Ford



THIS summer, city staff and councillors will be working through a series of service reviews and grappling with our 2012 budget. I'd like to thank the thousands of you who contributed to this review through a survey or at a review session. Your input is important.

This review process is vital for our city. For years, Toronto has spent more money than it makes. To make up the difference, City Council increased taxes. Even after raising taxes, though, Toronto kept increasing its spending. Each year, the shortfall grew bigger. Today, we're facing a $774 million gap.

But, that's only half the story. You see, while Toronto was spending madly each year on operations, it was also borrowing billions of dollars for its capital budget. Today, the city is about $2.5 billion in debt. The previous administration approved plans that will add another $1.8 billion to our debt by 2014. This year, we will spend about $446 million of your tax dollars just to pay for our debt – money that goes to bankers, not for services. By 2014, that cost will grow to about $630 million per year.

I was elected to say "enough!" With our current budget, we've stopped the wild growth in spending and exposed the truth about our financial challenges for all to see. With our 2012 budget, we plan to begin fixing it.

It's time for City Hall to make the same kind of choices that families make every day. We need to focus on "must haves" not "nice to haves" and start living within our means – just like families across the city. That's what the service review process is all about.

Customer service and complaint handling

THE City of Toronto aims to deliver exceptional, equitable and accessible customer service. Service standards within programs and divisions, as well as for telephone and voice mail were reviewed and are now well established.

Divisional service standards detailing the time required to deliver services to the residents and businesses of Toronto are now being made available on our website to better inform citizens about when they can expect requested services to be delivered. The following divisions' service standards are now available:

- Solid Waste Management
- Urban Forestry
- Transportation Services
- Toronto Water
- Municipal Licensing & Standards

Other divisions' standards will be publicly available in the coming months.

City divisions also have complaint handling protocols. If our customers are dissatisfied with the service they receive, Toronto wants to make it easy for them to make a complaint. The protocols outline how City staff will manage complaints efficiently, fairly, effectively, and uniformly, and recognize the diversity of the hundreds of City services provided to the citizens of Toronto.

toronto.ca/customerservice

3 1 1
toronto at your service

311 Toronto receives many requests for City services online. See the most frequent requests made online for City services and the customer service standard for completing the request. More service standards for City services will be available in the near future.

toronto.ca/311/standards_311osr.htm

Zion Church Cultural Centre, 1650 Finch Ave. E.

THE Zion Primitive Methodist Church was built in 1873 by the Methodists of L'Amaroux, the Finch community between Victoria Park and Warden, on land donated by early settler Henry Scrace. The Church and adjacent cemetery was acquired by the borough of North York in 1971, and in 1977 "designated" under the Ontario Heritage Act as an example of a typical rural church.

In 1997, a cultural facility was envisioned for the building and former City of North York Council endorsed a proposal for the Church's restoration and the building of a new addition to house mechanical and support space. The Zion Church Cultural Centre opened in Fall 1998. As a City-owned and operated facility, the Zion Church serves to promote arts and heritage in the community. The Zion Church Cultural Centre can be rented for art exhibitions, recitals, weddings, meetings and conferences.

toronto.ca/culture/zion_church

Making it easier to access legislative information

IF you are interested in the decision-making process at Toronto City Council and its committees, visit **toronto.ca/council**. There you can find and follow the City's legislative information easier and faster than ever. Mobile-friendly, with compatibility for Blackberry, iPhone and iPad, the site lets you follow meetings when you're on the go or away from your computer.

Launched on December 1, 2010, **toronto.ca/council** is the latest in a series of improvements by the City Clerk's Office to enhance public access to the decision-making processes of City Council, Community Councils and Standing Committees.

The site has meeting schedules, agendas and minutes; you can search for agenda items, and follow the progress of meetings online in real time. If an item deals with a specific address, you can see the location by clicking the 'map view' feature.

toronto.ca/council also gives residents several ways to engage with the decision-making process.

- The 'Submit Comments' link above each item lets anybody comment on an item until the decision is made at Council or committee.
- 'Item View' lets you track the status (adopted, deferred, or amended) and expandable views reveal all decisions made on that item.
- Agendas and items have unique URLs, allowing users to bookmark and e-mail items to friends or colleagues.
- Members of the public can register to speak at committee or submit comments when viewing an agenda item by clicking 'Request to speak'.

Searching for items is easier and faster too. The new search screen allows users to set simple or advanced search criteria to find relevant items.

Residents can also learn more about their elected officials by clicking on 'Member Attendance and Voting Record'.

Go online and get involved! Available 24 hours a day, **toronto.ca/council** is the source for meetings, agendas and minutes of Toronto City Council and its Committees. It provides the most current information on agenda items as they move their way through the legislative process.

Recently, the City of Toronto was recognized with awards from The Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) and the Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators for this innovative web page.

toronto.ca/council

Toronto's new plan for culture

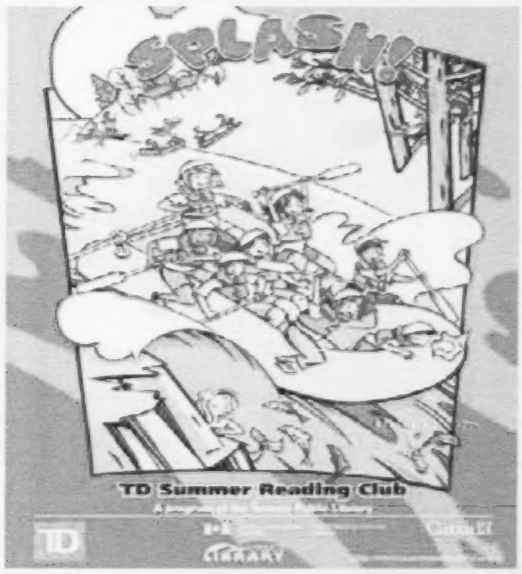
A new plan will soon see the City of Toronto refocus some of its cultural investments and services in order to better support artists and arts organizations, while also encouraging a stronger engagement with Toronto's business community. The findings and recommendations of this plan were endorsed by City Council this May in the report "Creative Capital Gains: An Action Plan for Toronto". An implementation strategy, based on this report, will be created for review by City Council later in 2011.

The report identifies areas for new and renewed investment and support by the City, along with 33 action recommendations that will assist in achieving these goals.

"We believe that the recommendations and action plan the report contains can help strengthen Toronto's economy and enhance our competitive advantage on the world stage," Councillor Michael Thompson (Ward 37 Scarborough Centre), Chair of the City's Economic Development Committee, stated in the report. "Culture is an economic catalyst we can and must maximize for the benefit of all our communities."

This report is the result of the efforts of the Creative Capital Initiative, which was formed in 2011 to provide expert advice and recommendations to update the City's 2003 Culture Plan for the current term of Council. The initiative was created by Councillor Thompson and guided by the volunteer efforts of cultural and business leaders who engaged in 13 public consultations with almost 500 members of Toronto's arts, culture and business communities to develop an action plan.

livewithculture.ca



Toronto Public Library splashes into Summer!

THE annual TD Summer Reading Club program runs in most Toronto Public Library branches this summer. This year's theme is "Splash! Celebrate Summer". The program is designed to encourage children 12 and under to read more, by engaging them in fun reading-related activities, including giving registered participants a free poster and activity book. To reward children for reading, they are given weekly stickers to affix to their poster. Be sure to bring your children into library branches for this free educational program that encourages children to continue building their reading skills over the summer in a fun and exciting way.

tdsrc.torontopubliclibrary.ca

South Asian film awards in Toronto

On June 25, the City of Toronto welcomed IIFA with Samskara, a free outdoor event in the space surrounding the Rogers Centre that celebrated the richness of classical and contemporary South Asian music, dance and fashion.

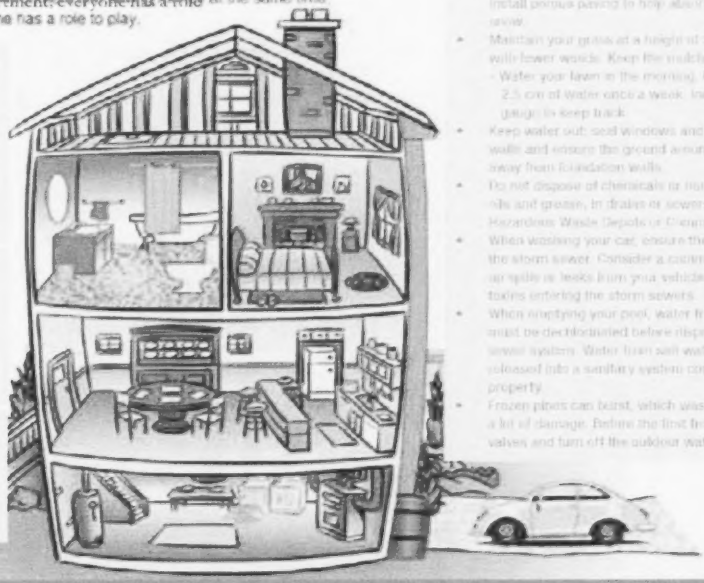
TORONTO hosted the 12th annual International Indian Film Academy (IIFA) Awards June 23-25. Sonay Gabroo Punjab De, a seven-member bhangra dance and drum group, helped to launch the celebrations at City Hall on June 2. Joining them on the green roof of City Hall were (from left to right): Chef Veronica Mal, CIBC Associate Vice-President Venki Raman, The Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Minister of Transportation (MPP Don Valley West), Councillor Michael Thompson Scarborough Centre), OMNI News South Asian Edition anchor Angie Seth and IIFA Project Head Noreen Khan.

toronto.ca/iifa2011

Water care tips around the home

Protect your home, the environment and save!

Using less water, keeping rainwater on your property and managing what and how much goes in to our storm sewer system means you are protecting your home and the environment and saving money at the same time. Whether you live in a home, a condo or an apartment, everyone has a role to play.



Bathroom

- Install water efficient faucets, low flow showerheads and faucet aerators. Take off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- Toilets are not for trash – throw dental floss, personal care products and q-tips in the proper bin; expired medications should be taken to a Household Hazardous Waste Depot or to a pharmacy.
- Check for a toilet leak by adding drops of food colouring to your water tank. If the water in your bowl changes colour, you have a leak.

Kitchen

- Keep a jug of water in the fridge to avoid running the tap for cold water.
- Install a low flow faucet aerator on your tap.
- Only run the dishwasher when it's full.
- Keep grease and oil out of the drain. Kitchen grease should go in the green bin (as long as there is material to absorb it).

Basement

- Use a high-efficiency front-loading washing machine, and run only full loads.
- Consider installing a backwater valve and a basement sump pump if you have experienced basement flooding. Be sure to maintain your equipment once it's installed.

Outside

- Disconnect your downspouts.
- Install a rain barrel and use the water for your grass and garden.
- Increase the amount of green space around your home and install porous paving to help absorb rainwater and melted snow.
- Maintain your grass at a height of 5–8 cm for a greener lawn with fewer weeds. Keep the mulched clippings on your lawn.
- Water your lawn in the morning. Healthy lawns need only 2.5 cm of water once a week, including rainfall – use a rain gauge to keep track.
- Keep water out: seal windows and walls, fix leaks in basement walls and ensure the ground around your property slopes away from foundation walls.
- Do not dispose of chemicals or household waste, such as oils and grease, in drains or sewers. Take them to Household Hazardous Waste Depots or Community Environment Days.
- When washing your car, ensure the used water does not enter the storm sewer. Consider a commercial car wash and clean up spills or leaks from your vehicle to reduce the amount of toxins entering the storm sewers.
- When emptying your pool, water from a chlorinated pool must be dechlorinated before dispersing of it into the storm sewer system. Water from salt water pools must be carefully released into a sanitary system connection located on your property.
- Frozen pipes can burst, which wastes water and can cause a lot of damage. Before the first frost, unscrew hoses, drain valves and turn off the outdoor water supply.

For more information visit toronto.ca/water or call 311.

Put waste in its place

EVERYONE is doing a great job at home; remember to follow the same practices when you are out and about.

IN OUR PARKS

We are replacing most collection bins in City parks with larger bins, similar to the type you have at home. Please use the right bin for recycling.

- Put items in separately (don't put them in a bag) after removing food residue.
- It is illegal to leave empty propane tanks in a park. Fines apply. These must be taken to a Drop-off Depot or a Community Environment Day event.

REMEMBER:
IT IS ILLEGAL TO DUMP HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE IN CITY BINS. FINES APPLY.

AT SPECIAL EVENTS

Events may have separate bins for recycling, organics and garbage. Please make the effort to sort your waste into the proper container.

ON THE STREET REMINDERS

What's recycling: Aluminum cans, foam cups and food containers, glass bottles (tops removed), plastic bottles and tops.

What's garbage: Black and clear plastic takeout containers, clear plastic drinking glasses, paper coffee cups, lids and sleeves, plastic cutlery, straws.

If you see a "litter hot spot" – illegally dumped garbage, overflowing bins or an unusually dirty public space – call 311 or complete an Online Self-service Request at toronto.ca/311.

toronto.ca/recycle

RESIDENTIAL

2011-2012 COLLECTION CALENDAR

Delivery starts in early June and continues into mid-August. If you have not received your calendar by August 22, please complete an Online Self-service Request at toronto.ca/311 or call 311. One-page collection schedules, including a sorting guide, are posted on toronto.ca/recycle.

An electronics collection bag is inserted into the calendar. Please read the information on the January 2012 feature page for proper set out instructions.

toronto.ca/recycle

Union Station undergoing much-needed transformation

UNION STATION is one of the Toronto Transit Commission's busiest stations, serving about 88,000 commuters every business day. The station is also one of the Yonge subway's original stations and was built with a centre platform, which happens to be one of the system's narrowest platforms. It measures only 6.9 metres wide compared to the TTC's newest platforms on the Sheppard subway, which are 10.3 metres wide.

Construction of a second platform and upgrades to the concourse level at Union Station is a priority project and is being primarily funded by Waterfront Toronto as part of waterfront revitalization.

The station's transformation, which is now in full swing, will:

- Address current overcrowding and safety concerns;
- Enhance accessibility throughout the station;
- Improve pedestrian flow through the station; and
- Provide a direct connection to the Harbourfront streetcars.

Union Station's Second Platform Project is the central cog in a future transit hub that will see:

- GO Transit services expanding over the next 15 to 20 years, sending more of their riders through Union subway station and the underground PATH network.
- Increased VIA Rail passenger flow to and from Union Railway Station.
- Waterfront developments that will increase ridership on the 509 Harbourfront and 510 Spadina streetcar services, as well as new transit service to the Portlands and the Donlands developments connecting at the Union subway station.
- A potential airport rail service to Union Railway Station.
- A redeveloped Union Railway Station with more shops and services.

Artist's rendering of the Second Platform Project at Union Station

The Union Station contract is scheduled for completion in 2014.

ttc.ca

Partnering in St. James Town

THE people of St. James Town are working together to improve their sense of community and their shared common spaces through a partnership with the City of Toronto and the Toronto Community Foundation (TCF).

Known as Recipe for Community, the initiative grew out of the TCF's Vital Signs' Report, which highlighted low levels of belonging and safety as key issues in Toronto. Recipe for Community works with residents to identify a neighbourhood's strengths and builds on them by enlisting residents and organizations to renew and revitalize the community.

The City's Office of Partnerships led the development of this strategic public private partnership and worked with the Toronto Community Foundation to secure more than $500,000.

Recipe for Community
St. James Town

The funding will support new open-air seating areas; an outdoor movie area; a cooking and nutrition program; a carpentry program that trains residents while producing benches and tables for the neighbourhood; a bicycle repair and safety program and a small business development program for new entrepreneurs.

A highlight this summer will be the refurbishment of the outdoor basketball court, a project supported by Maple Leaf Sports & Entertainment's Team Up Foundation.

St. James Town is a community of apartment towers, and many of the residents are new Canadians. These upgrades will help foster a greater sense of community.

The initiative is being managed by the City's Tower Renewal Program, which combines green technology with neighbourhood revitalization to transform Toronto's more than 1,000 concrete apartment towers.

toronto.ca/top/stjames-benefit.htm

Public Bike Program makes it easier to travel downtown

AS cycling becomes more popular, BIXI Toronto, in partnership with the City of Toronto, has introduced BIXI Toronto – the City's public bike sharing program – making it even more convenient to bike around Toronto's downtown core.

The new program will operate more like an extension of the public transit system than as a bicycle rental system. The bicycles are intended to be used for one-way trips of less than 30 minutes and can be picked up or dropped off at any BIXI terminal, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

It's a convenient and practical method to get around. The program, which began May 3, offers residents and visitors access to 1,000 bicycles from 80 fully automated and conveniently located BIXI terminals in the downtown area. It also allows cyclists to link with other modes of transportation, resulting in a more efficient transportation network.

The initial boundaries for the program are Spadina to the west, Jarvis to the east, Bloor Street to the north and Lake Ontario to the south.

Regular users of the system can purchase a membership online, ranging from one month to one year and will receive a BIXI key. Members can use their BIXI key to take out a bike at any station. Visitors to the city and one-time users can buy a 24- or 72-hour pass, using their credit card at any of the 80 BIXI terminals. You can make multiple 30 minutes trips per day with no additional trip fee if the bicycle is returned to a BIXI terminal within 30 minutes. A fee is charged for any trip longer than 30 minutes.

BIXI terminals are conveniently located in the downtown area

Montreal's BIXI public bike system opened in May 2009 and has grown to 44,000 annual subscribers and well over a million trips per year. More than 60 cities currently have public bike programs, including a few North American cities, such as Washington D.C., Boston and Minneapolis.

toronto.bixi.com

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER AND FACEBOOK!

Toronto has several official Twitter and Facebook accounts to keep Toronto residents, businesses and visitors informed about the City's many activities, programs and initiatives. Our primary Twitter account is @TorontoComms.

toronto.ca/newsroom

See Toronto through self-guided walking tours

THE City of Toronto has created a web page where residents and visitors can access 26 self-guided walking tours of some of the city's most beautiful and interesting areas.

A self-guided walking tour has no guide, no fee, nor a set date or time. An individual or group can explore the city at their own pace while learning about their surroundings.

In addition to the walking tours currently posted, the City is offering organizations and individuals the opportunity to create a self-guided walking tour. There are even a limited number of grants of up to $500 to cover the costs of producing such a tour.

The following organizations and individuals are eligible to participate:

- Not-for-profit organizations
- Grade 1 to Grade 12 students
- College and university students
- Individuals or a group of friends interested in walking.

Preference will be given to self-guided walking tours that meet one of the following objectives:

- Located in a neighbourhood not currently represented in the database
- Innovative and fun
- Focused on health and well-being.

toronto.ca/walking

Safety tips from the Toronto Police Service

PERSONAL SAFETY:

- Walk with a purpose. Be alert and be aware of your surroundings at all times.
- Tell others where you are going and when you are expected to return.
- If a crime happens to you, always call police.

HOME SECURITY:

- Keep a record of your valuables.
- Identify your property by engraving an identifying mark, making it easier for the police to return recovered property.
- Be a good neighbour and report any suspicious activity to the police.
- Install one-inch deadbolt locks on all exterior doors.

APARTMENT SECURITY:

- Do not allow strangers to enter the building as you are leaving or entering.

WHEN GOING ON VACATION:

- Inform a neighbour of your departure and return dates.
- Do not leave notes indicating you are not at home.
- Arrange to have the lawn cut and walkways cleared.
- Have a neighbour pick up newspapers and mail.

torontopolice.on.ca

Partnerships help save animals' lives

AUDREY, an adult red-eared slider turtle, was surrendered to Toronto Animal Services, after her owner passed away.

Audrey's home had been a tiny tank that was too small for her. Her shell was soft, undersized and convex instead of the normal concave shape. She had not been cared for properly for a long time. She had been fed the wrong food, which caused her shell to be visibly abnormal.

Toronto Animal Services veterinarians consulted with veterinary turtle experts, and established that there was a chance Audrey could have a good quality of life.

Animal Alliance, an animal rescue/advocacy group based in Toronto, expressed an interest in helping Audrey recover. Audrey was taken for an assessment at The Links Road Animal and Bird Clinic.

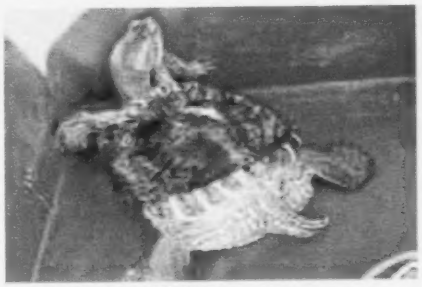
Audrey had a blood test, her shell was cleaned, and she was treated with fluids, vitamins and calcium. She started eating a balanced diet that strengthened her shell (although it would never grow back to a normal shape).

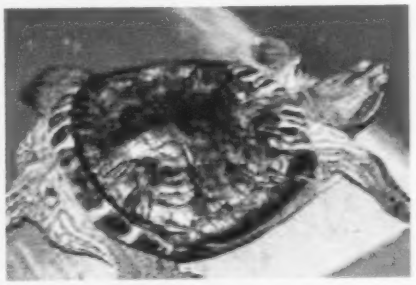
Now Audrey has a permanent home with Little RES Q, a Toronto group dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation and relocation of pet turtles. Audrey lives in a large tank with a soft platform which protects her shell from further damage.

Audrey's story has a happy ending thanks to the partnerships Toronto Animal Services has with many local organizations.

If you need to give up a pet turtle, please do not release it into a park or stream. Instead, surrender it to a turtle rescue organization or your local animal shelter.

toronto.ca/animalservices





Before and after Audrey received care.

Over 250 residents now enrolled in Toronto EMS Community Agency Notification program

Toronto EMS Community Paramedic and Registered Nurse, Debbie Wicks enrols a resident in the program at St. Clair West Services for Seniors community agency.

TORONTO Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Community Paramedics recently launched a pilot program called Community Agency Notification (CAN). The program is a collaboration between the Toronto EMS Community Paramedicine team and the St Clair West Services for Seniors community agency. The pilot program is already in place in three senior's buildings, with over 250 seniors currently enrolled.

Toronto EMS and community agency staff work together in Toronto Housing Corporation seniors' buildings to enrol residents into the program. Paramedics review a resident's medications and medical history and document the information on the CAN form. The resident then puts the information in a prominent place, so that when paramedics arrive it is easy to retrieve.

When Toronto EMS is called to a medical emergency at a CAN building, the paramedics will know to look for the CAN patient forms. These forms help with the assessment and care of the patient, especially when the patient is unable to communicate due to a language barrier, or a medical condition like a stroke.

In addition, the CAN Program connects the hospital with the community agency so that follow-up care can be provided. This closes the loop on the patient's total care and allows the patient to access all the City services they need while in and out of the hospital.

The program has the potential to reach over 5,000 seniors in Toronto as the pilot rolls out to the other community agencies. If you aren't part of the CAN program you can still prepare yourself by completing the form at the link below.

torontoems.ca/main-site/pdf/cut-and-fold-outlined.pdf

Toronto THEN&NOW

Holy Blossom Temple

Built in 1897 by the Canadian architect John Wilson Siddall, 115 Bond St. was the first home of Holy Blossom Temple, dedicated on September 15, 1897. By that time, Temple membership had grown to 119 families.

By the 1930s, the congregation recognized that the time had come to move again. At the height of the Depression, with a membership of just over 250 families, enough money was raised to buy the land and to build a sanctuary at a location on the then outer edge of the city. Holy Blossom Temple at 1950 Bathurst Street was dedicated on May 20, 1938.

115 Bond St is now the home of St. George's Greek Orthodox Church

Arson prevention for the summer months

Toronto Fire Services recommends that you take the following actions to prevent arson:

- Lock all doors and windows in your home, garage, gates and vehicles.
- Provide exterior lighting around your home at night.
- Secure a back alley or easement to restrict entry by intruders.
- Trim shrubs that may provide a possible source of combustion or cover for a criminal lurking at night.
- Ask neighbours to help keep an eye on your home, offering to do likewise for them.
- Concentrate on monitoring houses where the residents are away, such as on vacation.
- Make sure there are no sources of combustible materials left outdoors in the open, such as rags, wood, gasoline cans, newspapers or old furniture.
- Lock and chain barbecue propane tanks (including spare tanks) to prevent them from being used as a source of flammable material.
- Install smoke alarms on every level of your home and test them monthly to confirm that they are operational.
- Plan and practise a family fire escape plan, with two ways to exit your home to a designated meeting place.
- Be aware of your surroundings at all times.
- Report any suspicious person(s) or events to the police immediately.

If you see anything suspicious, please call CrimeStoppers (you can remain anonymous) at 416-222-TIPS (8477).

toronto.ca/fire/tatf

Favourite City Feature, Favourite City Service

DO YOU HAVE A FAVOURITE SPOT IN TORONTO? WHAT'S SPECIAL ABOUT IT?

I love walking down around the St. Lawrence Market, admiring the very European architecture. The Flatiron building is very interesting and definitely worth a closer look. On a Saturday morning, you can stroll to the St. Lawrence North Market and experience the Farmer's Market and if lucky even get a good bargain. After that, I head to the St. Lawrence South Market and experience the sounds, sights and smells of multicultural Toronto. I particularly enjoy the deli bars with delicious stuffed olives, dips and cheeses. There's lots to see, taste, hear and browse.

IS THERE A CITY SERVICE THAT IS SPECIAL TO YOU?

My favourite city service would be the Toronto Public Library, with millions of books and DVDs, which satisfy my craving for reading and classic films. I am also a volunteer at the Toronto Public Library, which feels great; to give back to a service that provides so much to the community.

GITANJALI VERMA, TORONTO

Do you have a favourite place in the city? Is there one service that you really like? Write us at ourtoronto@toronto.ca

Get inspired at St. L

ARE you the seasoned chef of your kitchen or a novice looking to be inspired? The St. Lawrence Market has a team of professional chefs who are passionate about food and who have the expertise to teach you how to eat healthily, how to prepare meals in less than 30 minutes and how to make cooking fun.

As you slice and dice, you will learn all about the fresh, quality food sold at the St. Lawrence Market. All food supplied for the cooking programs is from the Market's merchants and farmers. A workshop on the basic principles of artisan cheese making has recently been added to the line-up of classes.

Classes are offered in the Miele gallery at the Market Kitchen in the south market building (92 Front St. E.). Classes range in price from $65-$130. Call, e-mail or check out the courses online.

stlawrencemarket.com

THEY'RE BACK! **They may be black and white, but the Zoo's new endangered African penguins are always up for full-colour fun! Located in their newly renovated, 260-square-metre habitat in the African Savanna, the endangered African penguins are back to delight Zoo visitors with their lively, playful antics.**

Summer in the city

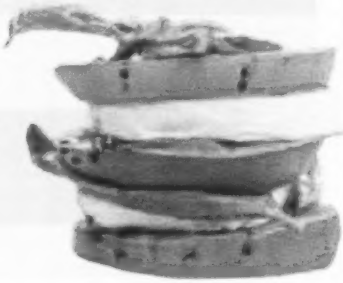
Summer has arrived, bringing with it countless events across Toronto for people to enjoy.

Whether you want music, dancing, food or family fun, the City of Toronto brings residents a wide array of activities.

Sunday Serenades is a free concert series at Mel Lastman Square featuring live music, and dancing under the stars (July 10 - August 21).

Fresh Wednesdays (July 13 - August 31) and Tasty Thursdays (July 14 - September 1), take place at Nathan Phillips Square starting at noon. These weekly events are ideal for those looking for live music, fresh produce or food hot off the grill.

Summerlicious, presented by American Express, returns for its ninth year (July 8 – 24). Food lovers may just discover a new favourite place to dine with 150 fine-dining restaurants serving three-course, prix-fixe menus across the city. Visit toronto.ca/summerlicious for a list of participating restaurants and menus.



toronto.ca/eventcalendar

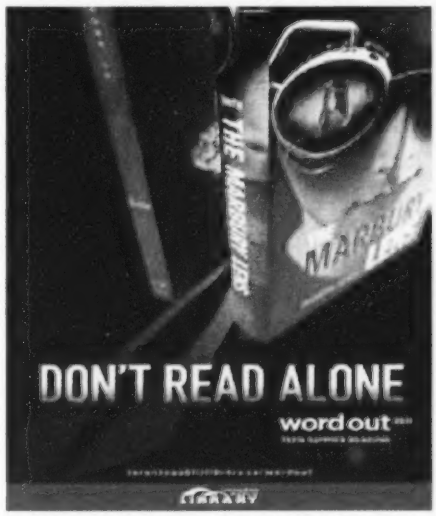
Controlling cat overpopulation

The City of Toronto plays a very active role in addressing the cat overpopulation problem.

- All cats adopted from City animal centres are sterilized prior to adoption (this includes kittens). A total of 2,647 cats were sterilized in 2010.
- Toronto Animal Services (TAS) operates a low cost spay/neuter clinic for cats owned by residents of Toronto. A total of 311 cats were sterilized in 2010.
- TAS partners with many local veterinarians to aid in achieving the goal of sterilizing all cats prior to adoption. A total of 397 cats were sterilized at external clinics in 2010.
- TAS partners with PetSmart stores which provide additional adoption opportunities for our cats by housing them in their stores.
- TAS operates a free spay/neuter clinic for feral cat colonies in Toronto. Cat colony caretakers trap the cats, bring them to the shelter for sterilization and then return the cats to their colonies after surgery.
- TAS is an active member of the Toronto Feral Cat Trap-Neuter-Return Coalition (TFCC), which was formed in May 2010. We are currently working on sterilizing feral cats from a target area selected by the TFCC – another way to decrease the number of cats entering our animal centres.
- Next steps include initiating the Meet-Your-Match program developed by the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. It is a way to assess cats' personalities and match them to their new owner to ensure a long and happy relationship. We are also working on education of the public to promote the intrinsic value of cats, and to promote responsible pet ownership and care.

toronto.ca/animalservices or call 311.

Library warns teens: Don't read alone this summer!



Toronto Public Library's annual Word Out teen summer reading program is warning teens: Don't Read Alone this summer! Instead, they should get online with hundreds of other book lovers to talk about their favourite books, their most despised books, what they are currently reading, and what they are hoping to read this summer. They will meet hundreds of other readers online, find out what everybody else is reading, trade book tips, make video book reviews, and hear from their favourite authors, as they join in the online fun. And, bonus... they can win prizes!

torontopubliclibrary.ca/wordout

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT DAYS

Do your part to create a cleaner, greener Toronto.

Bring used or unwanted household items to any Community Environment Day event.

For event dates, locations and a detailed list of items you can take to and get from the event, visit the Community Environment Day web page or call 311.

toronto.ca/environment_days

LIVEGREEN TORONTO FESTIVAL

Yonge-Dundas Square

Saturday, July 16